THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected from Govt. of J&K and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Noise Pollution in Delhi

1279. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some important intersections in Delhi have been identified as having noise level more than the permissible limits;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to tackle the high noise pollution level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) According to Noise Surveys carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board, the noise level at some of the traffic intersections in Delhi were found to be higher than the prescribed standards.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to reduce noise pollution include the following:

(1) Ambient Air Quality Standards in respect of noise for different categories of areas have been notified. Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by December, 1992 while those for appliances and equipment are to be met by December, 1993.

(2) Codes of practice for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles have been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board and the various State Governments have been requested to implement the same.

(3) In Delhi to control noise pollution, 19 areas around educational institutions and 28 areas around hospitals and 23 residential/office areas have been declared as silence zones. Restrictions placed on blowing of horns in these zones are being enforced by the Delhi Traffic Police. Prosecutions have been launched against the violators of these restrictions.

Indian Forest Services Division

1280. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study of the working of the Indian Forest Service Division which was conducted by the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management of the Department of Personnel and Training has found serious lapes in the implementation of perssonnel policy and career management of the officers of the Indian Forest Service;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the situation since the report was submitted;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the same report had also suggested further studies to be carried out for better personnel management; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken till now and intends to take in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) While no lapses as such have been identified by the study in the working of the Cadre Management Division of the Indian Forest Service, the Study team of the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management has made a number of recommendations for revising procedures for timely completion of annual confidential reports, confirmation of officers, disposal of representations, memorials and appeals, maintenance of property returns, reviews for continuance in